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DOCKET NO: 273549US0PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
SHUZO ITO, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: 10/537,861 :
FILED: JUNE 6, 2005 :
FOR: METHOD OF PRODUCING :
MOLTEN IRON :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 9 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 12 of this paper.